

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Please substitute the Replacement Sheet attached herein with Figures 1 and 2 for the original drawing sheet.

Please add the New Sheet with Figure 10.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4, 6-7 and 9-10 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Suh (U.S. Patent No. 6,661,325) in view of Rabjohn (U.S. Patent No. 4,816,784). In addition, the Examiner objected to the drawings as not showing every feature specified in the claims, rejected claims 1-7 and 9-10 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-6 and 9 have been currently amended. New claims 11-20 have been added. Claims 3 and 5 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. The rejections above have been traversed and, as such, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1-7 and 9-20.

2. The drawings were objected to as failing to expressly point out the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth windings recited in the claims 1 and 4. Claim 1 has been amended to use the terms “first winding” and “second winding” that are used in the drawings and specification and the terms “first portion”, “second portion”, “third portion”, and “fourth portion” of the second winding to follow the language of the specification. A replacement sheet has been provided that more clearly labels these portions in Figure 1. Support for these amendments is provided in original Figure 1 and the original discussion of Figure 1. No new matter has been added.

Likewise, claim 4 has been amended to use the terms “fifth portion” and “sixth portion” of the second winding. New Figure 10 has been added that presents a schematic diagram of the invention of Figure 9 that expressly labels and points out these features that were present in the patent application as filed. Support for this new Figure comes

from original Figures 1 and 9, and the description of original Figures 1 and 9. No new matter has been added.

The specification has been amended to reflect these terms, reference numerals and Figures. Again, no new matter has been added.

Applicant submits that the revised drawings show these features of amended claims 1 and 4 and respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

3. Claim 1 was rejected as being indefinite. In particular, Examiner requested that Applicant clarify the structure of the first, second, third and fourth windings and further to clarify the differential signals.

As discussed above, claim 1 has been amended to use the terms “first winding” and “second winding” that are used in the drawings and specification and the terms “first portion”, “second portion”, “third portion”, and “fourth portion” of the second winding to follow the language of the specification. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to recite that:

“when the first differential signal is coupled to the second winding, the first differential signal is coupled across the first portion and the second portion of the second winding, and when the second differential signal is coupled to the second winding, the second differential signal is coupled across the third portion and the fourth portion of the second winding”.

Applicant believes that these amendments cure the potential indefiniteness of claim 1 and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

4. Claim 2 was rejected as being indefinite. In particular, Examiner requested that Applicant clarify the arrangement of the plurality of taps relative to the first and second differential signals. Applicant believes that the amendments made to claim 1 above

(from which claim 2 depends) recite sufficient structure to meet this objection. In particular, it seems clear, based on the amendment to claim 1 discussed above, that the plurality of taps couple the first differential signal across the first portion and the second portion of the second winding, and the second differential signal across the third portion and the fourth portion of the second winding.

Applicant believes that the amendment to claim 1 has cured the potential indefiniteness of claim 2 and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

5. Claim 3 was rejected as being indefinite. In particular, Examiner requested that Applicant clarify the arrangement/interconnection between the shunt winding with the first of the plurality of windings.

Claim 3 has been amended to conform with claim 1 (as amended). In addition, amended claim 3 now recites the parallel connection between the first winding and the shunt winding and the position of the shunt winding on a different layer, from the at least one layer, that has the first winding.

Applicant believes that these amendments cure the potential indefiniteness of claim 3 and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

6. Claim 4 was rejected as being indefinite. In particular, Examiner requested that Applicant clarify the structure/arrangement of the fifth and sixth windings relative to the third differential signal. As discussed above, claim 4 has been amended to use the terms “fifth portion”, and “sixth portion” of the second winding. In addition, claim 4 has been amended to recite that:

“wherein the third differential signal is coupled across the fifth portion and the sixth portion of the second winding”.

Applicant believes that these amendments cure the potential indefiniteness of claim 4 and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

7. Claim 5 was rejected as being indefinite. In particular, Examiner requested that Applicant clarify the arrangement/interconnection between the shunt windings with the first of the plurality of windings.

Claim 5 has been amended to conform with claim 1 (as amended). In addition, amended claim 5 now recites the parallel connection between the second winding and the shunt winding and the position of the shunt winding on a different layer, from the at least one layer, that has the second winding.

Applicant believes that the amendment to claim 5 has cured the potential indefiniteness and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

8. Claim 9 was rejected as being indefinite. In particular, Examiner requested that Applicant clarify the structure/arrangement of the plurality of windings. Applicant believes that the amendments made to claim 1 above (from which claim 9 depends) recite sufficient structure to meet this objection.

Applicant believes that the amendment to claim 1 has cured the potential indefiniteness of claim 9 and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

9. As discussed above, Examiner indicated that claim 3 would be allowable if amended to correct the rejections under 35 USC 112 and rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for favorable treatment of claim 3. New claim 11 represents claim 3 amended to correct the potential indefiniteness discussed above and to incorporate the subject matter of the prior claim 1.

For this reason, applicant believes that claim 11, and claims 12-15 that depend therefrom are patentably distinct from the prior art.

10. As discussed above, Examiner indicated that claim 5 would be allowable if amended to correct the rejections under 35 USC 112 and rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for favorable treatment of claim 5. New claim 16 represents claim 5 amended to correct the potential indefiniteness discussed above and to incorporate the subject matter of the prior claim 1.

For this reason, applicant believes that claim 16, and claims 17-20 that depend therefrom are patentably distinct from the prior art.

11. Claims 1 was rejected under the combination of Suh and Rabjohn. In making this rejection, the Examiner cited the Suh as disclosing a first winding on a first layer and a second winding on a second layer. These first and second windings of Suh are connected to one another using a via contact 530 passing through the insulating layer. As such, the first and second windings of Suh are electrically connected.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the second winding is electrically isolated from the first winding and electromagnetically coupled to the first winding. Because the first and second windings of Suh are electrically connected by via contact 530, they are not electrically isolated from one another as set forth in amended claim 1.

For this reason, applicant believes that claim 1, and claims 2-7 and 9-10 that depend therefrom are patentably distinct from the prior art.

12. Examiner also rejected claims 2, 7, and 9-10 under the combination of Suh and Rabjohn. In making this rejection, the Examiner tacitly admits that the particular features of claims 2, 7, 9-10 are not disclosed by the combination of Suh and Rabjohn, but states that the specific shape/dimension/size/turn ratio of the winding would have been an

obvious design consideration. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and respectfully requests that the Examiner produce the documentary prior art that Examiner believes shows these additional features, in particular, to determine if these potential prior art references are properly combined with Suh and Rabjohn as set forth herein.

Because Suh and Rabjohn do not disclose, suggest or teach these features, Applicant believes that this provides a separate and independent basis that claims 2, 7, and 9-10 are patentably distinct from the prior art.

For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1-7 and 9-20 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that they be passed to allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that are required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2126 (Docket BP 2276CON).

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

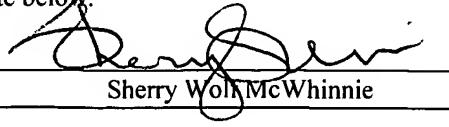
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 C.F.R 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date below:

April 5, 2006

Date


Sherry Wolf McWhinnie